

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE 77TH NYSVI

# HARDTACK DISPATCH

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VOLUME 2009 ISSUE 4      DECEMBER 2009

## OFFICERS

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## MEMBER NEWS

Hope everyone is well and staying warm. Doug attended the NEMDA meeting in October and took notes for me since I couldn't be there. I'll list the events that were placed on the calendar so we have them for discussion at the units annual meeting in January.

The Masons in Troy (John Goodbred, Walter Cook and Frank Burek) have asked Doug to help them organize an encampment next year, so he reserved a date in June. Doug will be in charge of organizing the re-enactors. We'll be sending out registration forms in March. There will be a bounty paid for canons and we'll be back at the Masonic Hall, where we started in 1996. The event has been listed in the Civil War News. Doug can talk more about this at the annual meeting.

I will make copies of the information Doug was given at the NEMDA meeting in October so everyone gets a chance to read it. This newsletter includes a copy of the minutes from last year and a copy of the Treasurer's report.

Tell me what else you'd like to see in the newsletter. I will try to find interesting articles and to report on what our members are doing, but I need input from you. I'm hoping to have some time to work on a website, but I haven't a clue what I'm doing, so if anyone would like to help out, please feel free to jump in!

The Annual meeting of the 77th NYSVI will be held at Christman's house in Delanson, on Sunday, January 10th, 2010 at 1:30 PM, with a snow date of January 17th, 2010 at 1:30 PM. Please plan on being there as we will discuss the calendar, among other things.

## **NEMDA meeting minutes**

**Minutes for NEMDA meeting held 11 October 2008 in Salisbury Center NY  
Called to order at 1:15 PM by President Richard Rathbun**

### **Officers in Attendance**

Richard Rathbun	President
Dana Darling	Vice President Confederate Forces
Doug Hull	Vice President Union Forces
Cathy Arie	Treasurer and Insurance Coordinator

### **Officers Absent**

Rick Christman	Vice President Colonial Forces
Diane Ellerbruch	Secretary

### **Members Present**

Michael Doxtater	2 <sup>nd</sup> Michigan
Ken Arie	2 <sup>nd</sup> NY Co G/Carringtons Battery
Don Jeffreys	157 <sup>th</sup> NYVI
USNLP	Andy Danish
5 <sup>th</sup> NY ART	Bessie Reynolds
5 <sup>th</sup> NY CAV	Everett Reynolds
55 <sup>th</sup> VA Co A	Tom Rathbun
21 <sup>st</sup> VA Co B	Robert McLachlan

### **Units Represented By Executives**

Richard Rathbun	4 <sup>th</sup> VA Co C
Dana Darling	61st GA Co A
Doug Hull	77 <sup>th</sup> NYV
Cathy Arie	2 <sup>nd</sup> NY Co G/Carringtons Battery

Andy Danish asked before the 2009 list was compiled to say a few words about artillery certification. There will be in both Jackson, MI as well as FT Niagara, NY classes to get certification to be on Artillery. The date for Jackson, MI is sometime in May 2009, FT Niagara is the 2-3 May 2009. Information for both these events can be obtained from Andy Danish [andyd\\_50@hotmail.com](mailto:andyd_50@hotmail.com) NEMDA artillery units are to follow the National Civil War Artillery Association (NCWAA) guidelines. Web address for NCWAA is [www.ncwaa.com](http://www.ncwaa.com) .

## **List of Events**

May		
Smith Falls, Ont	May 22-24	2 <sup>nd</sup> MI <a href="mailto:betndoc@sympatico.ca">betndoc@sympatico.ca</a> date was confirmed in NOV. Betty and Doc will help with arrangements to make crossing the border into Canada less hassle
<b>June</b>		
Salisbury Center, NY	June 5-7	
Peterboro	June 12-14	117 <sup>th</sup> NYV
<b>July</b>		
Massena	July 24-26	2 <sup>nd</sup> MI Robert Moses State Park

[betndoc@sympatico.ca](mailto:betndoc@sympatico.ca)

**August**

Erie Canal Rome, NY	July 31 Aug 1-2	
Windam Music Festival	July 31 Aug 1-2	Grand Concert
Windam, NY		
Malone	August (Awaiting dates)	2 <sup>nd</sup> MI Wilder Farm in Burke, NY

[betndoc@sympatico.ca](mailto:betndoc@sympatico.ca)

**September**

Sylvan Beach	September 4-7	157 <sup>th</sup> NYV In the city park in Sylvan Beach, NY Monday Labor Day is a Living History. Saturday Night Chicken BBQ with free rides at the amusement park <a href="mailto:Captstach157th@aol.com">Captstach157th@aol.com</a>
Bernards Bay, NY	September 18-20	157 <sup>th</sup> NYV Near Stone Barn Castle <a href="mailto:Captstach157th@aol.com">Captstach157th@aol.com</a>
Albany Rural	September 19	Albany, NY at Albany Rural Cemetery 125 <sup>th</sup> NYV and the Albany Civil War Roundtable along with the 77 <sup>th</sup> NYV <a href="mailto:mhull@hvcc.edu">mhull@hvcc.edu</a>
German Flatts, NY	September 25-27	German Flatts is located outside and across the canal from Herkimer

**October**

NEMDA Annual Meeting	October 10	Salisbury Center, NY
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**FYI**

Fort Drum	(sometime in May)	FT Drum is trying to organize a time line and is awaiting commands approval. This is strictly an FYI event, not an Official NEMDA listed event
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**Meeting restarted at 2:20**

The minutes from the 2007 were submitted and accepted as well as the Treasurer's report. The Treasurer also submitted a SOP in obtaining insurance both for individuals as well as events. Checks for both individuals as well as events need to be made out to NEMDA, the bank will no longer cash checks made out in the Treasurer's name. Also units are to gather everyone's insurance instead of individuals submitting to the treasurer. The Treasurer will have the new insurance rates NLT 1 FEB 2009.

NEMDA voted on making a donation to the Civil War Santa in the 157<sup>th</sup> NYV. It was brought to the Treasurer's attention he was raising money to help families in the NNY area with food baskets during the holiday season. NEMDA donated \$50 towards these food baskets. Also from the scholarship fund, Laura Ross was awarded \$100.00 to help with education costs.

The body of the meeting started with the introductions of new forms to be submitted at the end of each event. Safety was real concern this year with several incidents, with one that caused personal injury to another re-enactor. It's important we all follow the NEMDA regulations. A copy of these can be obtained through the NEMDA yahoo group. Also after each NEMDA hosted event an after actions report will be submitted to the president of NEMDA. This it look for minor safety issues as well as attendance and any concerns that can be addressed to help events run more smoothly. Field Commanders or Event hosts will be the ones using these forms. One issue addressed was that we didn't communicate with each other as officers in NEMDA over major events. We were all unaware that there was a pattern being established which ended in injury to other person. A form has been made up for us as officers to keep track of major incidents to take fast and appropriate action if need be.

Artillery will be inspected and a form filled out and included with the After Actions Report sent to the President. All members who carry NEMDA insurance will follow the minimum standard set forth in the NEMDA safety rules. At NEMDA Insured events, the minimum standard for safety again will be the NEMDA safety regulations. If a unit hosting an event wants to enforce a stricter standard, please feel free to do so. Safety is our number 1 concern and anything to make our events safer is welcomed.

One thing brought to the floor was "What is considered a NEMDA event"? With minimum attendance standards set in 2007 events on the NEMDA list need to defined as either NEMDA events or events listed

as "other". A committee is being formed to address this issue along with the following issues. We also need to define exactly what is NEMDA as well as strengthening up the organization. There is a concern on how to bring up attendance at NEMDA events as well as a possibility of defining MAX effort events. What this committee is hoping to do is to tighten up the organization and get clear definitions of these issues. The actual definition of NEMDA is tabled for the annual 2009 meeting.

Don Jeffreys volunteered as a recruitment officer in inviting some of the other units in New York and surrounding states to attend some of our events with the possibility of these units joining our organization.

Don also introduces us to his annual news paper he puts out. He invited units hosting events to place an ad for their events at no cost to the event. Please submit NLT the 15<sup>th</sup> of January any ad for publication in his paper [Captstach157th@aol.com](mailto:Captstach157th@aol.com).

Also Don Jeffreys introduced to the membership an addendum to the NEMDA by-laws to hold elections for officers not once a year but once every 2 years. This was voted upon and unanimously accepted. Next election for officers will be held in 2010.

There will be School of the Officer/NCO to be held sometime in March 2009 in Rome, NY. More information on this event will be posted as it is organized.

Elections for 2008 were held and all officers holding positions now will continue to hold these same positions until 2010.

Meeting was adjourned shortly before 4pm

Respectfully,

Cathy Arie

Treasurer

## NEMDA TREASURER'S REPORT 2009

Beginning Balance from 2008		\$1765.24
(Includes \$298 for scholarship fund form Troy 2006)		
2008 Secretary's expenses	\$0.00	
Donation to Civil War Santa	\$50	
Scholarship paid out 2008	\$100	
Total Beginning Balance for 2008		\$1615.24
Insurance In for		
(187 insured 2 events)		\$1496
Insurance Out for		
(195 Insured 2 events)	\$1390.13	
Donations and Fees		\$350
Ending Balance for 2008		
Less scholarship for future use	\$198	

*Grand total in Treasury for expenses* **1873.11**

This year we opted, after discussion with the president, to go with a new insurance company. We weighed both options and found that the new company, Harleysville, offered what the NRA insurance company could not. We have an optional payment plan, paid over 5 payments so we don't have to get all of our money in as 1 lump sum. That is handy since we have a couple units who don't seem to get their funds in by the due date of 28 FEB. It also gives me the option of waiting and not having to estimate what the annual insurance per person is by waiting to get the bill, making the 1<sup>st</sup> payment then collecting after, which will give us a more accurate figure and which will probably move the due date forward a bit to either 31 MAR or 30 APR. This company is offering the same coverage for less per person, as you noticed when we started to collect for the year 2009.

We have had some problems collecting for individual insurance and event insurance for 1 particular unit. My routine has not changed since I have taken over as treasurer and yet I have to continue to approach this unit and remind them that their insurance is due and that their event insurance is due. I find myself doing this numerous times. Next year, be forewarned, I will not be doing this anymore. If you do not get your request in 30 days in advance for event insurance I will not get a certificate for you. I request 30 days in advance because I go on vacation occasionally and I am sure that the insurance people go on vacation occasionally. I work approx 60 hours a week so I need time to get this for you. Every other group seems to be on top of this so I know I am doing the right thing the right way. The schedule is set for 2010, that means you know for which events you need insur-

ance in 2010. Plan to get this in the spring when I'm collecting for individual insurance or shortly after. I don't know what events you need insurance for, so please be on top of this, I cannot chase down individual units and constantly remind them of this obligation. This is the final warning. I have been told I should not have to do this, well this coming year, I'm taking that advice.

This year we welcome 2 new units:

118<sup>th</sup> NYV

Compagnie Franche du les Guerrieres d'Oswegatchie (F&I unit Ken and I Joined)

Respectfully,

Cathy Arie

Treasurer NEMDA

## **2010 NEMDA EVENTS LISTING**

- January 16 Lee-Jackson Dinner Ticonderoga 3-6 PM \$20.00
- February 27 Swap at Salisbury Center and NEMDA meeting 12-6 PM Covered Dish. Snow Date March 27th.
- March 27 145th Anniversary Battle of Bentonville \$175.00
- April ? Sons of Confederate Veterans event at Albany Rural Cemetery
- May 15-16 Plattsburgh 3rd Annual Scott Wilson
- May 21-23 Fort Herkimer Living History
- June 4-6 Troy, Masonic Hall Doug Hull
- June 26 Rouse's Point
- June 12-13 Peterboro
- July 24-25 Massena Doc and Betty Doxtater
- August 7-8 Canada
- September 4-5 Sylvan Beach
- September 17-19 Tupper Lake Pete Gilbert
- September 24-26 German Flatts
- October 23 Wolf Oak Acres
- October 23 NEMDA meeting Salisbury Center Potluck 11-4
- (I will get more information before our meeting about these events.)

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THE 77TH NYSVI**

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**END OF SEASON**

Please let me know of any news you have about events you attended or are planning to attend. Next newsletter will be out in February, so please send me information by the end of January.

Thanks!

Maria